Cup. 21 g. 28/24

# Her MAJESTIES most Gracious SPEECH to the Parliament, on *Tuesday* the Ninth Day of *Nov.* 1703

## With the Addresses of the Two Houses to Her Majesty on that Occasion.

*My Lords and Gentlemen,*

I Have Called you together assoon as I Thought you could conveniently come out of your Countries, that no time might be lost in Making our Preparations for Carrying on the present War, in which I do not Doubt of your cheerful Concurrence, since you can't but be sensible that on the Success of it depends Our own Safety and Happiness, and that of all *Europe*.

I Hope I have Improved the Confidence you Reposed in Me last Year, to your Satisfaction, and the Advantage of Us and Our Allies by the Treaty with the King of *Portugal*, and the Declaration of the Duke of *Savoy*, which in great Measure may be Imputed to the Cheerfulness with which you Supported Me in this War, and the Assurance with which you Trusted Me in the Conduct of it: And We cannot sufficiently Acknowledge the Goodness of Almighty God, who is pleased to Afford Us so fair a Prospect, as We now have, of bringing it to a Glorious and Speedy Conclusion.

I must therefore desire you, *Gentlemen of the House of Commons*, to Grant Me such Supplies as shall be requisite to Defray the Necessary Charge of the War in the next Year, with regard not only to all Our former Engagements, but particularly to Our Alliance lately made with the King of *Portugal*, for Recovering the Monarchy of *Spain* from the House of *Bourbon*, and Restoring it to the House of *Austria*, which Treaty being in it self of the highest Importance imaginable, and requiring all possible Dispatch in the Execution of it, has necessarily Occasion'd a great Expence, even in this present Year, tho' not so much as it will require, and for which, I Hope, We shall be amply Recompensed in the next.

The Subsidies which will now be immediately required for the Assistance of the Duke of *Savoy* will likewise Occasion a further Necessary Charge.

I must take Notice to you, that tho' no particular Provision was made in the last Session, either for the Charge of Our present Expedition to *Portugal*, or for that of the Augmentation Troops desired by the *States General*, yet the Fonds given by Parliament have held out so well, and the Produce of the Prizes has prov'd so Considerable, that you will find the Publick will not be in Debt by reason of either of these additional Services.

I may further Observe to you, that tho' the Fonds for the Civil Government are Diminisht by the War, I have, in Conjunction with the *States General*, Contributed out of My Own Revenue towards some Publick Services, and particularly the Support of the Circle of *Suabia*, whose firm adherence to the Interest of the Allies, under the greatest Pressures, did very well deserve Our Seasonable Assistance: And I shall still be Careful not to engage My Self in any Unnecessary Expence of My Own, that I may have the more to Spare towards the Ease of My Subjects.

*My Lords and Gentlemen,*

I Heartily Wish some easie and less-chargeable Method could be found for the Speedy and Effectual Manning of the Fleet.

I must also Recommend to you to make some Regulation for Preventing the Excessive Price of Coals, I have Examined this Matter, and taken particular Care to appoint Convoys for that Service; but the Price has not been in the least Abated, notwithstanding a very Considerable quantity has been Imported since that time; This gives great ground of suspicion there may be a Combination of some Persons to Enrich themselves by a general Oppression of others, and particularly the Poor: 'Twill deserve your Consideration how to Remedy this great Inconvenience.

And in all your Affairs, I must Recommend to you as much Dispatch as the Nature of them will admit; This is necessary to make Our Preparations early, on which in great Measure Depends the good Success of all Our Enterprizes.

I want Words to Express to you My earnest Desires of Seeing all My Subjects in perfect Peace and Union among themselves: I have nothing so much at Heart as [illegible] general Welfare and Happiness; Let Me therefore Desire you all, That you would Carefully Avoid any Heats or Divisions that may Disappoint Me of that Satisfaction, and Give Encouragement to the Common Enemies of Our Church and State.

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*The Humble Address of the Right Honourable the Lords Spiritual and Temporal in Parliament Assembled, Presented to Her Majesty on* Friday *the* 12th *Day of* November, 1703. *And Her Majesties most Gracious Answer thereunto.*

*Die Jovis* 11 *Novembris*, 1703.

WE Your Majesties most Dutiful and Loyal Subjects, the Lords Spiritual and Temporal in Parliament Assembled, do offer up our hearty Acknowledgments to Almighty God for the Preservation of Your Royal Person, so Essential to the Happiness of Your People, and the Safety of *Europe*.

We see, with the greatest Satisfaction, the Zeal with which Your Majesty Espouses the Publick Interest, which carries You even beyond the Obligations of Your Treaties in Defence of the House of *Austria* against the Usurpations of the House of *Bourbon*, and the Glorious Restitution of that Family to the Monarchy of *Spain*; which we have great reason to expect from the late Alliance with the King of *Portugal*, will be chiefly Owing to Your Majesties Arms and Assistance.

Your Majesty may depend upon Security at Home in the Love of Your People, our Persons and Fortunes shall ever be ready to defend You upon all Occasions; And Your Majesty may therefore, with the greater Safety and Glory, send Your Fleets and Armies Abroad in the Defence of Your Allies.

The Happy Declaration of the Duke of *Savoy* for the Common Interest, gives Your Majesty a seasonable Opportunity to shew Your Compassion and Concern for those Protestants in the South of *France*, who lye under the heaviest Persecution and Oppression.

We Lament for our selves and others the unavoidable Expences of War, but have reason to thank God and Your Majesty, that we are free from all the other Calamities of it, having almost nothing else to wish for (being secured of a Protestant Succession) but Your Long and Happy Reign over us: And we shall most willingly pay our Proportion of Taxes, Encouraged by Your Royal Generosity for the Ease of Your People, and by the Frugal Management of what is Given, being sensible there is no better Way to save the Wealth of the Nation, than by Carrying on the War at this time with the utmost Vigour.

Your Majesty may Expect from us a most ready Compliance with all Your Desires, so justly merited by Your Care of the General Welfare and Happiness of Your People, extended even to the poorest and meanest of Your Subjects.

This appears yet more eminently in that Earnest and Pressing Recommend[illegible]

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*The humble Address of the House of Commons, the* 11th *Day of* November, 1703. *With Her Majesties most Gracious Answer.*

*Most Gracious Sovereign,*

WE Your Majesties most Dutiful and Loyal Subjects, the Commons in Parliament Assembled, do humbly return Your Majesty our most Hearty Thanks for Your Majesties most Gracious Speech from the Throne.

We are truly sensible of Your Majesties earnest Endeavours to bring the War to a Glorious and Speedy Conclusion, of which Your Majesty has given us so far a Prospect, by Your great Wisdom and Conduct, in Engaging the King of *Portugal* and Duke of *Savoy* in Your Alliance, for Recovering the Monarchy of *Spain* from the House of *Bourbon*, and Restoring it to the House of *Austria*.

We do most gratefully Acknowledge Your Majesties Singular Care in the good Management and Application of the Publick Money, whereby Your Majesties Exchequer hath greater Credit in this so Expensive a War, than was ever known in the most flourishing Times of Peace, and Your most Signal and Unparallel'd Grace and Goodness to Your People, in Contributing out of Your Own Revenue, towards the Publick Service, particularly Your Majesties most seasonable Assistance to the Circle of *Suabia*.

The many Blessings we enjoy under Your Majesties most Auspicious Reign, and Your Tender Regard to the General Welfare and Happiness of Your Subjects, justly require our utmost Returns of Duty and Gratitude. And Your Majesty may be assured, That Your Faithful Commons will support Your Majesty in Your Alliances, and effectually enable Your Majesty to carry on the War with Vigour, to which nothing can more contribute, than a Firm Union among our selves: We therefore crave Leave further to assure Your Majesty, That we will, according to Your Majesties Desire, carefully avoid any Heats or Divisions that may give Encouragement to the Common Enemies of the Church and State.

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I want Words to Express to you My earnest Desires of Seeing all My Subjects in perfect Peace and Union among themselves: I have nothing so much at Heart as general Welfare and Happiness; Let Me therefore Desire you all, That you would Carefully Avoid any Heats or Divisions that may Disappoint Me of that Satisfaction, Give Encouragement to the Common Enemies of Our Church and State.

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Your Majesty may Expect from us a most ready Compliance with all Your Desires, so justly merited by Your Care of the General Welfare and Happiness of Your People, extended even to the poorest and meanest of Your Subjects.

This appears yet more eminently in that Earnest and Pressing Recommendation to Your Parliament of Union and Peace amongst themselves; And we, in the most solemn Manner, assure Your Majesty, That we will not only Avoid, but Oppose whatsoever may tend to Create any Disquiet or Disunion amongst Your Subjects.

We shall never be wanting in any Part of our Duty towards the Supporting Your Majesties Honour and Your Allies, not doubting but Almighty God will prosper Your Majesties Arms, so Gloriously Employed to Protect all those whom the Ambition of the *French* King would oppress.

Her Majesties most Gracious Answer to the Address.

*I Am extremely Sensible of the Particular Concern you Express for Me in this Address, and of your Great Zeal for the Common Cause of* Europe.

*I rely very much upon the Assurances you give Me of your Duty and Affection, and shall always use My best Endeavours to Establish the Safety and Happiness of the Kingdom.*

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*Most Gracious Sovereign,*

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Her Majesties most Gracious Answer.

*I Am very well pleased with your Assurances of Supporting Me in the present War, and your kind Acknowledgments of My Endeavours to bring it to a happy Conclusion.*

*You may assure your selves I shall always pursue the True Interest of the Kingdom, and omit nothing that may Promote the General Welfare of My People.*

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*LONDON*,
Printed by *Charles Bill*, and the Executrix of *Thomas Newcomb*, deceas'd; Printers to the Queens most Excellent Majesty. 1703.